MARVEL
ULTIMATE
BLACK PANTHER
11
HILL | NIETO | CURIEL
DEC. 2024 | RATED T+

He came alone.
Arrogance or bravery?
VMMMM

Neither.
It's *cowardice.*

Hold!

We expected the King of Wakanda.
You have his blood. That will be good enough for you today.

You wanted to talk. So talk.

Moon Knight has an offer for Wakanda.
An offer of peace...
Careful.
You are one. *Outnumbered.* I am not the one who is in need of caution.
Oh?

Dora Milaje-- *advance!*
You think any of this land is not known to us?
Then you are mistaken. So as I said, diplomat...
*Careful.*
Your strength is recognized, Kingsister.
I bring you no violence today.

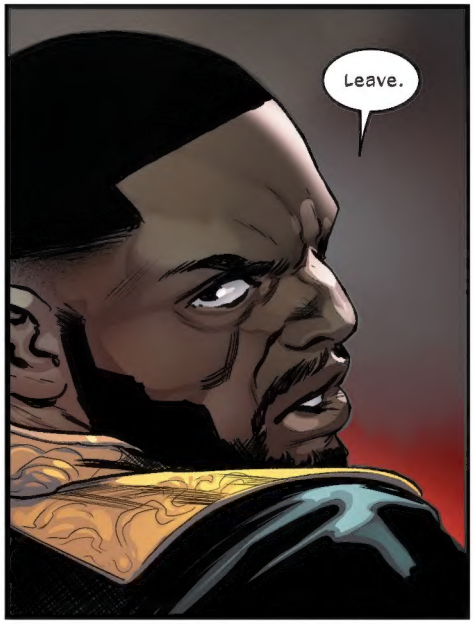
I bring a pathway to *peace.*
A proposal. *Equitable split* of the territory. The Kingdom of *Khonshu-Ra.* The Kingdom of *Wakanda.* West Africa allowed to choose its alliance.
Democracy.
You want us to concede geography to the people who tried to kill us?
Wakanda was a nation of isolation. You did not care about the fate of the regions beyond its walls until they knew the sun-knowledge of Khonshu-Ra.
Your brother is driven by pride, Princess Shuri. I hope you can see beyond it.

You have brainwashed villages. Taken their people and enslaved them to this madness.
By pretending to be a God.
There will only be peace when you leave this land.
Or when you are driven from it.
So Wakanda wants war.
Then I also have a different offer to share.
I suspect your king can see me now. That your technology aids it.
So let me speak to him.

There are ancient ways to settle conflicts. Ways that do not have to involve the innocent. Or those who serve either of our nations.
Single combat. The Black Panther faces Moon Knight. The victor decides the fate of this land. Of vibranium. Of the future.
You want to fight my brother?
My master wants to kill him.
But he hides behind his forces. Even as he knows he does not understand vibranium. Or the power Khonshu-Ra has found within it.
Will the coward king face my master?
Yes.

Later.
No.
My king, the answer is no.
I can overtake him.
He wants a battle to the death.
I will be victorious.
How he defines victory is up to him.
Brother, you are not well.
I am king. And sound.
And tell him I accept. Whenever he likes.
Deliver the message to him.
And leave me.

My king--


Leave.

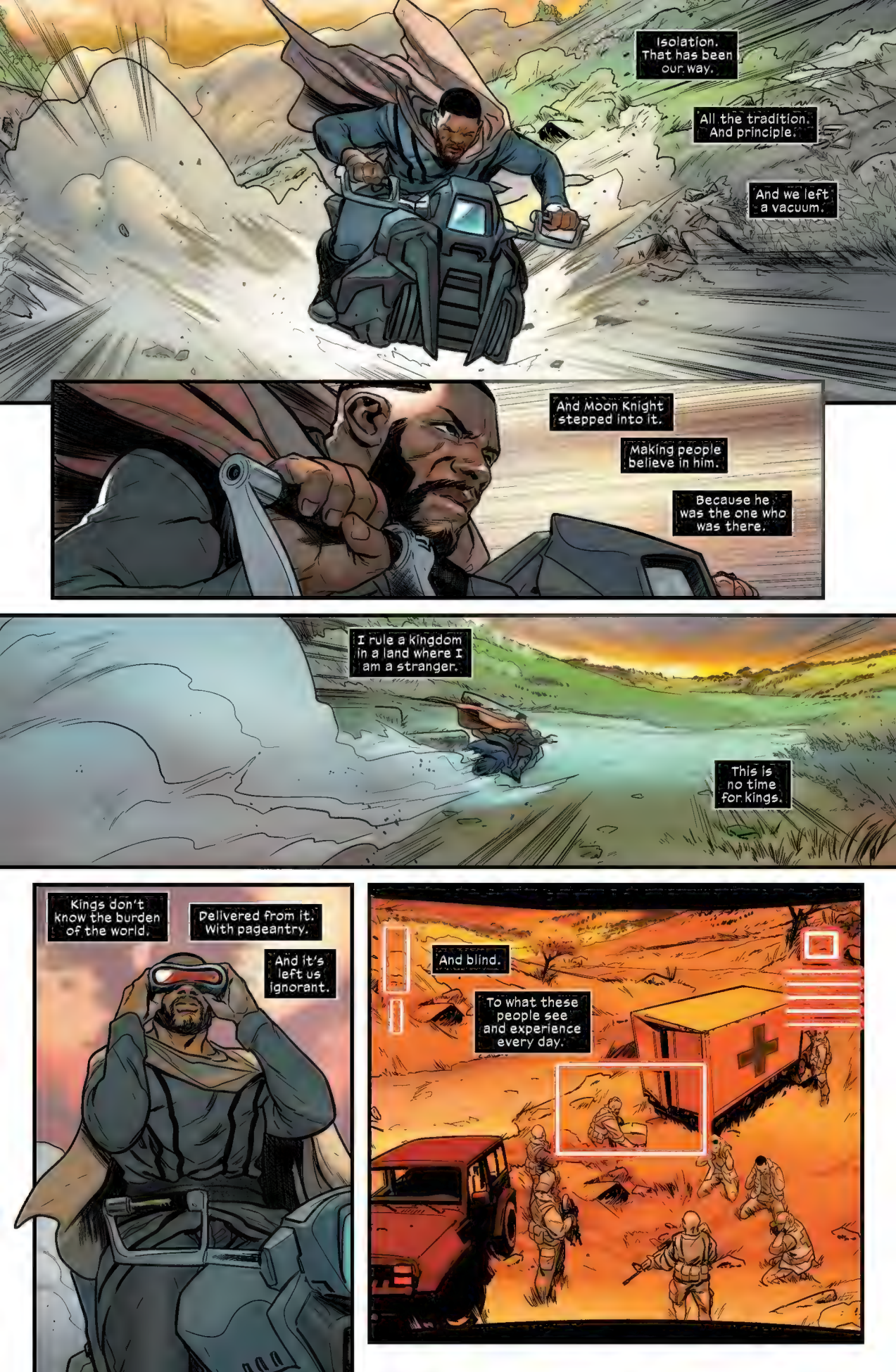
As you wish.
Brother.

Tell Matron Imala I have need to see her.
Alone.

Okay. Clearly something is *changing* within him. I will take theories.
The wound. The vibranium. He's been obsessed with it.
Like an *infection* of the spirit.

That is a statement of fact, Shuri.
I asked you for a theory.
I think vibranium has its secrets, Okoye. Secrets no generation has sensed or found.
And now comes the part where I sound insane.
Speak freely.
What if vibranium has a consciousness? Or something captured within it?
What if it has given rise to two kingdoms to place them in conflict? Like pawns.
Perhaps that does sound a bit insane.
But follow it. Vibranium wants war. Why?
Because of what remains after. Whatever that would be.
In any case, we cannot let T'Challa accept this offer.
Agreed.
But he cannot know we're trying to prevent it.

"Also agreed."
System. Does this vehicle have a tracking module?
Affirmative. This vehicle has a tracking module relay back to the Wakanda command center.
Deactivate it.
That is not advised. Security protocol code required.
Code: Fele. Naani. Weita. Taalu.
Authorized. King T'Challa. Tracking deactivated.


Isolation. That has been our way.
All the tradition. And principle.
And we left a vacuum.
And Moon Knight stepped into it.
Making people believe in him.
Because he was the one who was there.
I rule a kingdom in a land where I am a stranger.
This is no time for kings.
Kings don't know the burden of the world.
Delivered from it. With pageantry.
And it's left us ignorant.
And blind.
To what these people see and experience every day.

They're moving medical supplies. Leave them be.
And who are you? Local hero?
Move along. That's the only warning I'm going to give.
You think that gun protects you. Don't you? You *believe* in it.
Then let's test your faith against my own.
I think this one is on something.
Watch the goods. I'll leave him on the dirt to scare the locals.

BRATTA
BRATTA
BRATTA
KRAK
NGAAAGH!

Let's move--while that lunatic has them occupied!

AGH!
KRACK
Unh!
You're safe. You can come out now.

Please don't hurt us.
Do I seem like I want to hurt you?
You're injured.
...
So I am.
Let me help you. It's what I do.

--So we work between the cities. Doing what we can. Locals don't want to change their ways. The cities don't want traditions getting in the way of their economics.
While mercenaries take what they can.
And the Black Panther. Do his efforts assist you?
"The Black Panther"? Never heard of him.
There's someone named Moon Knight. Some kind of deity. I don't know. I can't really understand it.
Some people believe in *him*.

All I see are people caught in the middle of forces that don't seem to care much about what happens to them.
A land of resources. Where no one cares about the people who call it home.
These should help with the pain. I wouldn't make a habit out of attacking men with guns--
Right.
What to expect from a stoic man with a hovering motorcycle.
Open comms. Shuri.
Brother. Where are you?
In the country. Where I should have been.

I will take Moon Knight's challenge. I will shame him.
Then I will kill him.
Is this your connection with vibranium speaking? Or do you think that sounds like wisdom?
I think we have failed this region. I think there is much more we need to do.
I think Moon Knight was inevitable.
We can understand vibranium.
But first, we need to understand Africa.
I want detailed reports. Every criminal network. Every humanitarian crisis. All of it. Wakanda will be isolated no more.
I will accept his challenge.
And after a God is dead, it will be *Wakanda* that gives people new *belief.*
I am coming home.
TO BE CONTINUED...